

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A magnetic head comprising:
2 a read sensor including:
3 at least one primary pinned layer;
4 a barrier layer;
5 a free layer;
6 an in-stack biasing structure having net magnetic moment $dM=0$, which
7 acts to stabilize said free layer by exchange coupling.

- 1 2. The magnetic head of claim 1, wherein:
2 said in-stack biasing structure includes paired layers of opposite magnetic
3 orientation which are separated by a spacer layer, such that the net magnetic moment of
4 said paired layers is substantially zero.

- 1 3. The magnetic head of claim 1, wherein:
2 said $dM=0$ corresponds to a dT less than 5×10^{-10} meters, where magnetic
3 thickness $T = M \times t$, and M equals magnetization, t equals thickness of material, and dT
4 is the differential in the layer thicknesses.

- 1 4. The magnetic head of claim 1, wherein:
2 said in-stack biasing structure includes a self-pinned layer pair.

1 5. The magnetic head of claim 1, wherein:
2 said at least one primary pinned layer includes a pair of primary pinned layers,
3 separated by a spacer layer.

1 6. The magnetic head of claim 5, further comprising:
2 at least one layer of AFM material which acts to pin said pair of primary pinned
3 layers.

1 7. The magnetic head of claim 5, wherein:
2 said pair of primary pinned layers are self-pinned layers.

1 8. The magnetic head of claim 1, wherein:
2 said read sensor is of Current Perpendicular to the Plane (CPP) configuration.

1 9. A disk drive comprising:
2 at least one hard disk;
3 at least one magnetic head adapted to fly over said hard disk for writing data on
4 said hard disk, and having an air bearing surface, said magnetic head including:
5 a read sensor including:
6 at least one primary pinned layer;
7 a barrier layer;
8 a free layer;

9 an in-stack biasing structure having $dM=0$, which acts to stabilize
10 said free layer by exchange coupling.

1 10. The disk drive of claim 9, wherein:
2 said in-stack biasing structure includes paired layers of opposite magnetic
3 orientation which are separated by a spacer layer, such that the net magnetic moment of
4 said paired layers is substantially zero.

1 11. The disk drive of claim 9, wherein:
2 said $dM=0$ corresponds to a dT less than 5×10^{-10} meters, where magnetic
3 thickness $T = M \times t$, and M equals magnetization, t equals thickness of material, and dT
4 is the differential in the layer thicknesses.

1 12. The disk drive of claim 9, wherein:
2 said in-stack biasing structure includes a self-pinned layer pair.

1 13. The disk drive of claim 9, wherein:
2 said at least one primary pinned layer includes a pair of primary pinned layers,
3 separated by a spacer layer.

1 14. The disk drive of claim 13, further comprising:
2 at least one layer of AFM material which acts to pin said pair of primary pinned
3 layers.

1 15. The disk drive of claim 13, wherein:

2 said pair of primary pinned layers are self-pinned layers.

1 16. The disk drive of claim 9, wherein:

2 said read sensor is of Current Perpendicular to the Plane (CPP) configuration.

1 17. A method of fabrication of a read head sensor, comprising:

2 A) fabricating at least one primary pinned layer;

3 B) fabricating a free layer above said at least one primary pinned layer; and

4 C) fabricating an in-stack biasing structure having $dM=0$, which acts to bias said
5 free layer by exchange coupling.

1 18. The method of fabrication of claim 17, wherein:

2 said in-stack biasing structure includes a self-pinned layer pair.

1 19. The method of fabrication of claim 17, wherein:

2 said at least one primary pinned layer includes a pair of primary pinned layers,
3 separated by a spacer layer.

1 20. The method of fabrication of claim 17, wherein A further comprises:

2 fabricating at least one layer of AFM which acts to pin said pair of primary
3 pinned layers.

- 1 21. The method of fabrication of claim 17, wherein:
- 2 said pair of primary pinned layers are self-pinned layers.